REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-13 and 21-46 are currently pending. Claims 21-46 are hereby added. Claims 14-20 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1, 8-10, 12, 13, 21, 28-30, 32-34, 41-43 and 46 are independent. Claims 1, 8-10, 12 and 13 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed.

Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1-7 are hereby amended to add the notation "Prior Art," as required in the Office Action. Replacement drawing sheets are included herein.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102 AND §103

Claims 1-8 and 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,583,653 to Timmermans.

Claims 9 and 13-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Timmermans.

Independent claims 1, 8, 9, 10 and 12-13 have been amended. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Independent claim 1, as amended, is representative and recites, *inter alia*:

> "An information recording apparatus for recording information on a predetermined recording medium . . .
>
> wherein the first data includes three macro blocks including a first macro block such that discrete cosine components are extracted from a luminance signal of a discrete cosine transform block, a second macro block such that discrete cosine components are extracted from a first color-difference signal of a discrete cosine transform block and a third macro block such that discrete cosine components are extracted from a second color-difference signal of a discrete cosine transform block, and
>
> wherein the second data includes three macro blocks such that discrete cosine components are extracted from each of three luminance signals of a discrete cosine transform blocks."

Amended claim 1 of the present invention claims discrete cosine transform (DCT) blocks in macro blocks assigned for the search data. Y0 (one luminance DCT block of a macro block), Cb (a first color-difference, or chrominance, DCT block of a macro block) and Cr (a second color-difference, or chrominance, DCT block of a macro block) are used for the base data of the search data (image). FIGS. 9A, 9B and 13, par. [0081], as-filed specification at page 19, lines 11-21. The "base data" corresponds with the "first data" recited in claim 1.

Also, Y1 to Y3 (three luminance DCT blocks of a macro block) are used the helper data of the search data. The "helper data" corresponds with the "second data" recited in claim 1.

The added feature of the "wherein" clauses is not disclosed in Timmermans. That is, Timmermans does not disclose the DCT blocks in the macro block assigned for search data as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 of the present application is patentable over Timmermans because that reference does not disclose, teach or suggest each and every element recited in the claim. In particular, Timmermans does not teach the arrangement of the DCT blocks in the macro block assigned for the search data as recited in the claim.

For reasons similar or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 8, 9, 10 and 12-13 are also believed to be patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

V. NEW CLAIMS

Claims 21-46 have been added. The added claims are two new claim sets (21-33 and 34-46) that correspond with claims 1-13.

Claims 21-33 amend the original claims 1-13 to recite the feature, "wherein the search data for nine traces of the recording medium are arranged across 144 tracks separated into four traces of first data and second data of five traces." This feature claims the arrangement of the search image data on the recording medium. The search image data for 9 traces is arranged across 144 tracks in such a manner as to be separated into base data (first data) of 4 traces and helper data (second data) of 5 traces. FIGS. 12 and 13, pars. [0087]-[0088], as-filed specification at page21, lines 10-17.

Claims 34-46 amend the original claims 1-13 to recite the feature, "wherein a sync block of the recording medium includes macro blocks that correspond with the image displayed such that macro blocks of the first data are mapped to the display image, left to right, from an X address of a start macro block within the sync block and a Y address of the start macro block within the sync block of a sync block header, and wherein the sync block header includes a picture class ID to indicate whether the search data is first data or second data." This feature claims that the X-address information, Y-address information are packed in the sync block (SB) and the picture class ID is packed in the SB header. The "SB-X" address indicates the X coordinate of the start macro block within the sync block, and the "SB-Y" address indicates the Y coordinate of the start macro block within the sync block. The "picture class ID" indicates whether the search image data is base (first) data or helper (second) data. FIG. 14, par. [0091], as-filed specification at page 22, line 15 to page 23, line 2.

FIG. 17 shows the correspondence between a macro block and a display screen. The search image display section 63 maps the macro blocks of the base data from left to right in the figure from the coordinates specified by the "SB X address" and the "SB Y address" of the search sync block header described using FIG. 14. par. [0097], as-filed specification at page 24, lines 15-25.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-46 are in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By: _____

Paul A. Levy
Reg. No. 45,748
(212) 588-0800

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The Drawings are amended as follows:

FIGS. 1 - 7 are amended to add the notation, "Prior Art."

Attachment: Replacement Drawing Sheet 1 including FIG. 1;
Replacement Drawing Sheet 2 including FIG. 2;
Replacement Drawing Sheet 3 including FIG. 3;
Replacement Drawing Sheet 4 including FIG. 4;
Replacement Drawing Sheet 5 including FIG. 5;
Replacement Drawing Sheet 6 including FIG. 6; and
Replacement Drawing Sheet 7 including FIG. 7;